A NEW COMBINATION IN MYRCIANTHES (MYRTACEAE)

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Myrcianthes rigidissima (Cufodontis) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Eugenia rigidissima Cufodontis, Arch. Bot. Sist. 9: 198. 1933.

In McVaugh's synopsis of Myrcianthes (Fieldiana, Bot. 29: 473-497. 1963), this species is treated but without the combination being made; he had not seen the type but had seen a specimen from Panamá (Allen 1563) which matched the original description. I have seen three additional collections (Schmalzel & Todzia 2040 from Panamá and Lent 1909 and Wilbur 16716 from Costa Rica) and recently compared them with the type (Porsch 758, W). There is no doubt that this species corresponds to the concept of Myrcianthes, and seems to be quite distinct, as already noted by McVaugh.

NEW NAMES AND COMBINATIONS IN APOCYNACEAE, ASCLEPIADOIDEAE

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Cynanchum densiflorum W. D. Stevens, nom. nov.
Orthosia ecuadorensis Schlechter, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 37: 618. 1906, not Cynanchum ecuadorensis Schlechter, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 34 (Beibl. 78): 15. 1904.

It is not at all clear how the genera related to Cynanchum might be separated, but while the genus continues to be recognized in the New World this species must belong to it.

Cynanchum longirostrum (K. Schumann) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Diplolepis longirostrum K. Schumann, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 25: 725. 1898.

This is apparently a rare species belonging to a distinctive group within Cynanchum exemplified by the more common C. formosum

N. E. Brown and C. tarmense Schlechter, but no other species of that alliance has a rostrate style apex. The never-formally-published name "Doumetia ecuadorensis" Fournier was based on a specimen of this species, also from Ecuador, and the species has recently been collected in Peru.

Gonolobus denticulatus (Vahl) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum denticulatum Vahl, Eclog. Am. 2: 23. 1796.
Matelea denticulata (Vahl) Fontella & Schwarz, Bol. Mus. Bot. Munic. 46: 4. 1981.

Until recently this species went under the name Matelea viridiflora (G. Meyer) Woodson, the basionym of which was both an illegitimate later homonym and younger than the above basionym. The nearest relatives of this species have been kept in the genus Gonolobus and it has the only two characters currently used to separate Gonolobus from Matelea.

Matelea cumanensis (Willdenow ex Schultes) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Apocynum cumanense Willdenow ex Schultes in Roemer & Schultes, Syst. Veg. 4: 796. 1819 (March-June).
Cynanchum fimbriatum H.B.K., Nov. Gen. Sp. 3(10): t. 234. 1819 (8 February), 3(11): 158 (fol.), 203 (qu.). 1819 (9 July).
Metaplexis fimbriatum (H.B.K.) Sprengel, Syst. Veg. 1: 854. 1824.
Cynoctonum fimbriatum (H.B.K.) Decaisne in de Candolle, Prodr. 8: 531. 1844.
Ibatia fimbriata (H.B.K.) Karsten, Fl. Columb. 2: 113, t. 160, f. 2. 1865.
Vincetoxicum fimbriatum (H.B.K.) O. Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 424. 1891.
Matelea fimbriata (H.B.K.) Dugand, Caldasia 9: 436. 1966.

As discussed by McVaugh (Taxon 4: 78-86, 1955), the Humboldt and Bonpland collections from tropical America were often named independently and at times almost simultaneously from the sets at Paris and at Berlin. The pair of names Apocynum cumanense and Cynanchum fimbriatum were based on probably the same collection, certainly the same collector, locality, and species. The identity of the two names was noted by Kunth (Nov. Gen. Sp. 3: 453 (qu.), 1820 and Syn. Pl. 2: 282. 1823) and McVaugh listed this case among a few others where the apparent priority was opposite that of normal usage. The actual dates of publication of the two names have been refined somewhat since McVaugh's analysis, but the priority remains the same. Although the "fimbriatum" version of the name has been placed in six different genera, it has not to my knowledge been used on any but the type specimen. The rarity of this type of specimen improves the probability that the types of the two names are duplicates of the

same collection. However, as already pointed out by Morillo (Ernstia 18: 3-4, 1983), this is probably nothing more than an unusual form of a more common plant, currently going by the name Matelea albiflora (Karsten) Dugand. This name, along with its suite of homotypic synonyms, would then fall into the synonymy of the proposed combination.

Metastelma infimicola (L. O. Williams) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum infimicola L. O. Williams, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 55: 48. 1968.

Metastelma miserum (L. O. Williams) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum miserum L. O. Williams, Fieldiana, Bot. 32: 38. 1968

Metastelma rubens (L. O. Williams) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum rubens L. O. Williams, Fieldiana, Bot. 32: 39. 1968.

Metastelma sepium (Decaisne) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Vincetoxicum sepium Decaisne in de Candolle, Prodr. 8: 526. 1844.
Cynanchum sepium (Decaisne) Standley, Contr. U. S. Natl. Herb. 23: 1177. 1924.

Metastelma stenomeres (Standley & Steyermark) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum stenomeres Standley & Steyermark, Publ. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Bot. Ser. 23: 224. 1947.

Metastelma trichophyllum (L. O. Williams) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Cynanchum trichophyllum L. O. Williams, Fieldiana, Bot. 32: 41. 1968.

Woodson (Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 28: 208-215. 1941) placed Metastelma in the synonomy of Cynanchum. This usage has been accepted only in a few floristic treatments, particularly in Central America and the West Indies. Over the years, a number of Metastelma species have been published as Cynanchum. Of those from Central America, at least the above six seem to be good species.

Tassadia berterianum (Sprengel) W. D. Stevens, comb. nov.
Oxypetalum berterianum Sprengel, Syst. Veg. 1: 854. 1825.
Metastelma berterianum (Sprengel) Decaisne in de Candolle, Prodr. 8: 515. 1844.

This species has little superficial similarity to typical Tassadia. The floral details, however, match quite well and the inflorescence differs only in that the cymes are distinctly pedunculate and the so-called thyrses upon which they are borne are strongly reduced. Several groups of South American milkweeds tend toward the loss of leaves on the flowering branches, the end result of which are apparently axillary inflorescences, but the ultimate cymes are probably always extra-axillary.